

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 10275 070931Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----077507 070945Z /12

P 070838Z DEC 77 ZFF6  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9773  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PIRORITY  
USMISSION SINAI PRIORITY

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 10275

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, EG, US  
SUBJECT: RADAR AT E-1

REF: A) STATE 271012; B) TEL AVIV 9215; C) STATE 289450

1. AS REPORTED IN REF B, WE ASKED GOI FOR ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS POSED IN PARA THREE OF REF A. GENERAL GAZIT'S  
WRITTEN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NECESSARY  
TO PERFORM AN EMI ANALYSIS (REF A) HAS NOW BEEN RECEIVED  
AND IS QUOTED BELOW IN ITS ENTIRETY: QUOTE: THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR LETTER DATED 14 NOV 77. I HAVE CAREFULLY  
EXAMINED THE QUESTIONS PRESENTED IN YOUR LETTER. SINCE  
ANY REPLY TO THESE QUESTIONS WILL NECESSITATE EXPOSING  
THE VARIOUS SUB-SOURCES IN EGYPT OF OUR INTELLIGENCE  
INFORMATION, I AM SURE YOU WILL UNDERSTAND OUR INABILITY  
TO COMPLY WITH YOUR REQUEST. I DEEM IT IMPORTANT TO  
REITERATE AND REEMPHASIZE OUR BASIC PRINCIPLES CONCERNING  
THIS SUBJECT: (A) THERE IS NO ACTIVE EARLY WARNING RADAR  
IN OUR EARLY WARNING STATION IN UMM HASHIBA. THERE IS,  
THEREFORE, NO BASIS OR REASON TO INTRODUCE THE AN-TPS  
32 RADAR IN ORDER TO ADJUST THE CAPABILITIES OF E-1 AND  
J-1. (B) WE CONSIDER INSTALLING AN EARLY WARNING RADAR

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IN E-1, AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR LETTER, A VERY SERIOUS  
IMPEDIMENT TO OUR WHOLE INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION SYSTEM  
IN SIANI. IT CAN ACTUALLY BE DESCRIBED AS AN ELECTRONIC  
WARFARE SYSTEM DIRECTED AGAINST US, FROM TERRITORY UNDER  
U.N. CONTROL, SUPERVISED BY THE S.F.M. (C) AL THE STUDIES  
WE CARRIED OUT POINT TO A SINGLE CONCLUSION--THERE IS  
NO WAY THAT THIS RADAR CAN OPERATE EFFECTIVELY WITHOUT

OBSTRUCTING OUR OWN COLLECTION SYSTEMS. WE, THEREFORE, CANNOT ACCEPT THE INSTALLATION OF SUCH A RADAR IN E-1. SINCERELY YOURS, S. GAZIT, MAJGEN, DIRECTOR OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, I.D.F. END QUOTE

2. AT A MEETING WITH WEIZMAN AND GAZIT DECEMBER 6 ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, I PRESSED GAZIT WITH SOME SHOW OF AMAZEMENT ABOUT THIS RESPONSE. HE STOUTLY INSISTED: (A) THE EGYPTIANS HAVE NO LEGAL RIGHT TO HAVE ANY RADAR AT E-1, SINCE ISRAEL HAS NONE AT J-1. (HE CLUNG STUBBORNLY TO THIS POSITION, INSISTING THAT THE ONLY ISRAELI RADAR IS OUTSIDE J-1 ON TERRITORY LEGALLY UNDER FULL ISRAELI CONTROL, NOR WAS THERE ANY WHEN THE SINAI ACCORDS WERE SIGNED; (B) TO ANSWER OUR TECHNICAL QUERIES WOULD REVEAL SECRET DETAILS OF THE ISRAELI EARLY WARNING SYSTEM, WHICH HE COULD NOT DO; AND (C) KEY ELEMENTS OF THE ISRAELI SYSTEM WOULD IN FACT BE NEUTRALIZED BY INSTALLATION OF THE TPS-32 AT E-1. WEIZMAN LISTENED UNCOMFORTABLY TO OUR EXCHANGE. HE CLEARLY HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN WELL BRIEFED BY GAZIT.

3. I THEN RESTATED OUR POSITION, I.E., THAT WE HAD NOT REQUESTED ISRAEL'S PERMISSION FOR THIS INSTALLATION. IN OUR VIEW EGYPT HAD A RIGHT TO INSTALL A RADAR AT E-1 UNDER THE SINAI AGREEMENT, AND WE WERE HELPING HER ACQUIRE ONE. WE HAD INFORMED THE GOI MONTHS AGO OF OUR SECRET

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INTENTION. ONLY NOW, AFTER MANY WEEKS HAVE GONE BY, GAZIT RAISES THESE FORMAL AND CATEGORICAL OBJECTIONS. THE APPROPRIATE FORUM IN WHICH TO RAISE THE PROBLEM WOULD BE THE JOINT COMMISSION. (IN THIS CONNECTION, I SUGGESTED ANOTHER AVENUE OF APPROACH TO WEIZMAN WHICH I AM REPORTING IN A SEPARATE, MOR RESTRICTED, MESSAGE.)

4. COMMENT: AT THIS JUNCTURE I URGE THAT THIS ISSUE BE LEFT ON THE TABLE FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE WEEKS UNTIL THE CAIRO CONFERENCE IS WELL UNDER WAY, AND A CLEARER PICTURE OF FUTURE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN RELATIONSHIPS EMERGE. GAZIT'S ABRUPT ABOUT FACE FROM HIS EARLIER POSITION (TEL AVIV 8886) IS NOT EASILY EXPLAINED. PERHAPS HE IS MERELY A CAPTIVE OF HIS OWN TECHNICAL EXPERTS AND MUST FIND SOME NEW RATIONALE TO ARGUE THEIR CASE. BUT THE WHOLE ISSUE COULD PERHAPS BECOME MOOT VERY SOON. IF IT DOES NOT, WE MAY HAVE A NASTY PROBLEM ON OUR HANDS. MY SEPARATE SUGGESTION TO WEIZMAN OFFERS THE MOST PROMISE. LEWIS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Subject:** RADAR AT E-1  
**TAGS:** MARR, EG, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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